



SEP 6 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE EAST  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE WEST  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA  
COMMANDER, NAVY MEDICINE SUPPORT COMMAND

SUBJECT: Standard Organizational Policy for Nurse Assignment, Staffing and  
Operational Clinical Skills Sustainment

Enclosure: (1) Table of permissible time outside of clinical practice

The Nurse Assignment, Staffing and Operational Clinical Skills Sustainment Policy is intended to provide guidance to the Directors of Nursing and Senior Nurses to enable Nurse Corps officers to develop and sustain operational clinical competency and proficiency. As Navy Medicine evolves and changes in response to the new challenges stemming from the Global War on Terrorism, the Navy Nurse Corps remains focused on the primary mission of Force Health Protection. Thus, Nurse Corps officers must have current operational clinical skills to meet the Unit Type Code (UTC)/Operational Platform assignments and our Military Treatment Facility (MTF) beneficiary health care needs.

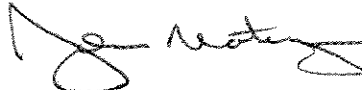
All non privileged Nurse Corps officers except those assigned to Commanding Officer, Executive Officer and Echelon 2 positions will sustain operational clinical competency by completing a total of 168 annual clinical hours in one of the following areas: intensive care, medical/surgical, perioperative, emergency, maternal/infant, mental health or post anesthesia nursing. Advanced Practice Nurses in recognized specialties areas of Family Practice, Pediatrics, Women's Health, Midwifery, and Mental Health, regardless of assignment, will maintain certification, gain privileges in an MTF and complete a minimum of 200 patient contact hours annually. A Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist will complete 850 hours over their two year recertification period. Other Advanced Practice Nurses with specialties in Emergency, Critical Care and Adult Acute care should maintain certification if available and pursue itemized privileges to practice based on Command requirements and approval. Enclosure (1) outlines the annual hours, annual CEUs and time outside of clinical practice for each specialty.

Ideally, Nurse Corps officers should not be detailed outside of their primary specialty for more than one tour. Nurse Corps officers assigned the primary subspecialty code of Manpower Systems Analysis (3130), Education & Training Management Systems (3150), or Health Care Management (1806) and assigned a secondary clinical code will sustain competency by completing the minimum hours for their secondary subspecialty code. To ensure consistent policy execution, the Senior Nurse Corps Detailer must approve consecutive assignments outside the clinical training platforms noted above or outside their pertinent clinical subspecialty codes.

---

In collaboration with the MTF Executive Leadership Team, the Director of Nursing or Senior Nurse will implement this policy. The Director of Nursing and Senior Nurse will make every effort to execute local staffing assignments to reflect the intent of this policy. The Director of Nursing/Senior Nurse will also educate every nurse and review their progress with this policy semi-annually to ensure compliance and continuous operational deployment readiness.

My points of contacts are CAPT Vanessa Scott, Nurse Corps Career Planner, at (301) 319-4116 or vmscott@us.med.navy.mil and CAPT David McCarthy, Nurse Corps Policy and Practice, at (202) 762-3822 or drmccarthy@us.med.navy.mil.



J. M. MATECZUN  
Vice Chief

Attachment:  
As stated

Subspecialty Codes	Max time outside of practice	Annual Hours	Annual CEUs
EMERGENCY ROOM NURSING (1945)	1 year	168	NA
CRITICAL CARE NURSING/ PACU (1960)	1 year	144	33 CEUs
PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSING (1930)	1 year - 1930S 4 years - 1930KPQ	168	NA
MEDICAL-SURGICAL (1910)	5 years	168	NA
NURSE ANESTHESIA (1972)	2 years	850/ 2 years	40 CEUs/ 2 years
MATERNAL/INFANT (1920)	2 years	168	40 CEUs
NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE NURSING (1964)	2 years	168	40 CEUs
PERIOPERATIVE NURSING (1950)	5 years	168	NA
FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER (1976)	2 years	200	NA
PEDIATRIC NURSING (1922)	3 years	168	NA
PEDIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER (1974)	2 years	200	NA
WOMEN'S HEALTH PRACTITIONER (1980)	2 years	200	NA
NURSE MIDWIFE (1981)	2 years	200	NA